

Habitat on the Home Front

Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity Volunteer & Sponsor Newsletter Volume 27 * Issue 1 * Winter 2013

Just in time for the Holidays! WVHfH Completes Its 59th House

The Woolard family, Gloria and her cat Goose to be exact, accepted the keys to their new home on the 8th of December. The purchase of this home for Gloria means she can do what she wants when she wants to her home. Gloria has lived in Terre Haute all her life and has been living with her son for the last 18 months. Gloria has struggled with raising rent costs and all she seemed to do was work to pay the rent.

It is always a wonder how people come to be Partner Families. As Gloria drove the HeadStart school bus around she would see the signs for Habitat for Humanity all over, so the little voice inside her head told her to apply. She didn't know if she would be accepted as she wasn't sure of the qualifications process and knew it could be a long process. Upon hearing that she was accepted into the program Gloria met her "sweat equity" hours by working at the ReStore, on other partner family homes, on her own home and volunteered with fundraisers so Habitat can continue its mission of decent, affordable housing for other families in the Wabash Valley.

Walking through her own front door and saying "I'm home!" is what is giving Gloria her inner peace. "God has blessed me very well this year." Gloria has been honored with 2 new blessings this year, a new job and a new home! The job and home are within a block of each other so when the weather is nice she will be leaving the car at home!

When asked what she thought of the Habitat program Gloria responded, "It is a good program. It is good to offer people the opportunity to own their home and work at getting it."

Gloria would like to thank Family Selection members, Dale Johnson, Robin Meyers, and Beth Thompson. Gloria would also like to thank Rose Ann Toulson, Annette Houchin, Pat Brown, and "The Grumpies" without their dedication and hard work, her house would not have gotten built. Gloria is grateful to everyone who has given her a "hand up" through this whole experience; she would not trade it for anything.

Gloria is thankful that the house is finished and looking forward to decorating her own home for Christmas!



WV Habitat for Humanity is looking for a few good Partner Families!

Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity is gearing up for the first ever Veterans Build in 2014! With Veterans facing housing challenges such as nearly 4 million veteran households paying more than 30% of income for housing; and 1.5 million of those paying more than 50% of income for housing at a severe cost burden. Veterans with a severe housing cost burden are more likely to have a disability than other veterans. On January 14, 2014 and January 18, 2014, Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity is conducting a Veteran Partner Family Orientation to inform Veterans and their families of Habitat for Humanity's mission and how to become a Habitat Homeowner Partner Family. This orientation will be held at the VFW, 1111 Veteran Square (1 block off of Wabash on 12th Street). Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to meeting the needs of Veterans and the Community by helping Veterans healing and reconnecting with their communities. This partnership strengthens the affiliate in volunteer engagement, partner families, recruitment and resource development. Habitat benefits from the leadership skills and work ethic of Veterans, their commitment to civic participation and their strong desire to serve.



Staff:

Annette Houchin
Executive Director

Pat Brown
*Construction/
ReStore Manager*

Dee Reel
Business Manager

Pearleen Stewart
*Administrative
Assistant
Volunteer Coordinator*

Steve Storie
ReStore Driver

**Executive
Board
Members:**

Chuck Federle
President

Shelley Kuykendall
Vice-president

Jerry Hochstetler
Treasurer

Ian Titus
Secretary

**Members at
Large:**

Jackie Bogle
Tammy Lowe
Paul Mason
Todd Thorlton
Bill Warden
Nathan Wheeler

**Advisory
Members:**

David Boeglin
Patrece Dayton
Scott Minton
Daniel Pigg

From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As we approach the end of 2013, I am extremely proud of what WVHfH has accomplished. Although there were many obstacles and challenges, we ended the year with a strong foundation. I am thankful for wonderful partnerships with the City of Terre Haute, Department of Redevelopment, who donate most of our land and grant money through, HUD HOME funds and NCST (National Community Stabilization Trust), through Wells Fargo and Bank of America who donates property, which generates cash flow when sold on the open market. The community was also very generous this year. Through the NAP (Neighborhood Assistance Program) tax credits, individual giving was up 25% from the previous year. We also received increased giving from the Indiana Chemical Trust and were awarded \$4,000 from the Wabash Community Foundation to purchase a much needed Bobcat. And let's not forget the ReStore. Pat Brown took on the management of the ReStore and with the help of the "Grumpies," a dedicated group of retired volunteers, renovated the inside of the store to maximize floor space for merchandise. ReStore sales were up 40% which generated over \$70,000 net proceeds for the organization.

Looking ahead though, our work is far from over. There are still too many children living in poverty conditions and the number continues to grow every year. It's time for you, your neighbors, co-workers, friends and family to invest and embrace those less fortunate. Help Habitat give our children in the community a better place to grow and flourish.

My sincere thanks to everyone who helps our organization change the lives of the families we serve. I wish all of you a warm and happy holiday this season.

In partnership,

Annette Houchin

Annette Houchin, Executive Director

Thank You....



WVHfH was awarded \$4,000 from the Wabash Valley Community Foundation. The grant funds were designated to purchase a bobcat, which will be used on both the construction site and in the ReStore. The bobcat has the capability to attach a bucket or fork; this will save us from having to rent the needed equipment. Pat Brown, Construction Manager, "It saved the affiliate a lot of money with the last house we completed. The foundation had wide spread roots that had to be dug up." "The bobcat is a great machine that helps us to do more." WVHfH gives a heartfelt thank you to the Wabash Valley Community Foundation for its continued support of our mission!

Thank You....

Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity would like to thank the following donors for their participation in the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) Tax Credit Program:

Donations \$5,000 - \$1,000

James & Jeanette Thompson
Gloria Jackson
Karin & Charles Felling
Charles & Pam Federle

Donations \$999 - \$500

Anita Poorman
Fred & Opal Whitkanack
Don Neuenschwander

Donations \$499 - \$250

James & Patty Cottom
John Ramer, Ph. D
Jerry & Paula Hochstetler

Donations \$249 - \$100 Harry & Rosaline Secrest, Jr; Robert Griffin; Keegan & Amanda Ireland; Louis & Pamela Venema; Dr. Ronald Leach; Robert & Mary McLaughlin; N.J. & Linda Alonge; Joyce Synder; Rev. Doddie Stone

We still have NAP credits available for the 2013 tax year. For every donation \$100 up to \$25,000, you may receive a tax credit of 50% of the donated amount. For more information and availability of the NAP Tax Credit Program, please contact the Habitat office 812-235-5914.



Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity is in need of Volunteers interested in the following areas:

Board of Directors –

The BOD lays the groundwork to increase our building program in future years. Board Development is an ongoing challenge, new members are needed.

Fundraiser Team –

The Fundraising Team raises funds and awareness in the community. The team is currently planning exciting events for Summer and early Fall 2014. Members include, Shelley Kuykendall; Tammy Lowe; Pam Federle; and Brent Cochran. Fundraising events are fun and exciting, but we need your help. Please contact Annette at the Habitat office 812-235-5914 for more information.

Construction Team –

The Construction Team consists of Pat Brown – Construction Manager, the Grumpies – dedicated volunteers: current and future homeowners; interns; friends and families of homeowners; as well as new volunteers. Pat and volunteers just completed our 59 house for the Woolard family located on the corner of Gilbert & Farrington.

Family Support –

Family Support welcomes new members to help families transition from renter to responsible home owners.

Finance Team –

Do you have an accounting background and are interested in utilizing your knowledge to give back to the community? The Finance Team reviews monthly financials for the board of directors, develops an annual budget, and plans annual audits. Members include Chuck Federle, Dee Reel, Annette Houchin, and Jerry Hochstetler. If you are interested, contact the Habitat office.

**Habitat for Humanity®
ReStore**

**Located at the
1831 Wabash Ave.
Corner of 19th and Wabash
(812) 232-9200**

**Wed., Thu., and Sat.
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Fri. 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Pickups: Weds. & Fridays**

Thank You....

The Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity ReStore would like to extend a really big Thank You to the following:

Red Lobster for their donation of recyclable items through their renovation of the restaurant this summer.

Sonka's Irish Pub for purchasing all the chairs from the Red Lobster donation, then donating 50 of the chairs back to the ReStore!

Last, but definitely not least, all of our donors to the ReStore—either commercial or individual donors—Thank You for your continued support and patronage of the ReStore. Without all of you we would not be able to do what we do!!

There are always great items available for purchase at the ReStore so come on down to 19th and Wabash and check out all the great bargains!!

ReStore Goals –

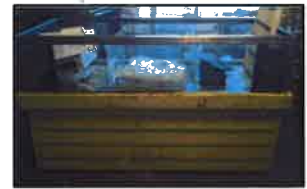
- Inform the general public about the ReStore and its mission.
- Keep the store inventory fresh and priced competitively.
- Find volunteers for the ReStore to improve the quality of customer service.
- Produce an email newsletter for our customers and donors.

Contact us to be added to the email list!

ReStore Wish List—

- In-kind advertising donation.
- Box Truck with a lift gate.
- Bobcat fork attachment
- 5 volunteers to work one shift a week either at the store or on the donation truck.

Just a few of the items donated from Red Lobster that are still available



Save your aluminum cans!

The ReStore always accepts aluminum cans!! Drop off cans at our ReStore on the corner of 19th & Wabash. Donating your aluminum cans to the ReStore keeps them out of the landfill helping the environment and the ReStore!

We are now on FACEBOOK! Please visit our page and "LIKE" us! Just type in "WVHReStore" to find us!

Visit the store to obtain your Frequent Shopper's Card. You save \$10 on a future purchase at the Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

Donate to WIN – WIN – WIN!

YOU WIN – rid your home of the excess, reduce your costs for hauling or disposing of the items, and maybe get a tax break!

WE WIN – revenue earned from your generosity goes to directly support further building efforts.

ENVIRONMENT WINS - keeps useful materials out of the landfill!



*Cover Story – ReStore Build- Woolard Family House Blessing, Veterans Build
Page 2 – Executive Director’s Message; Thank you- NAP Donors & WVCF!
Page 3 – ReStore News, ReStore Goals & Wish List, Volunteer Opportunities!
Page 4 – Habitat Wish List, NAP Tax Credit Program!*



Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity, Inc.
2313 Tippecanoe * Terre Haute, IN 47807
Tel: (812) 235-5914 * Fax (812) 232-8719
Email: habitat@wvh4h.org
Website: www.wvh4h.org

NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Terre Haute, IN
Permit 161

2014/2015 Goals

Complete two homes (fully funded)

- #60 Veterans Build
- #61 Currently no sponsor
- Break ground on house #62

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



At Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity, a large portion of our funding comes from individual donations. Here are some of the ways you can make a difference.

Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity’s Wish List

- Use of a Crane for a few hours
- Winch (8,000 lb. or greater)
- Bobcat fork attachment
- Box Truck w/Lift Gate
- 10 ft. Metal Brake
- Television 32” or Larger Please (for training purposes)
- DVD Player (training purposes)

All donations are tax-deductible!

NAP Tax Credits

For every donation \$100 up to \$25,000, you may receive a tax credit of 50% of the donated amount. For more information and availability of the NAP Tax Credit Program, please contact the Habitat office 812-235-5914.

CARPENTER’S CLUB

Becoming a member of the Carpenter’s Club is an ongoing way to support Habitat construction projects. Members pledge a gift for every new home that Habitat builds – typically one or two houses a year. Each time a home is completed, members are asked to fulfill their pledges. For more information about the Carpenter’s Club, please contact us at (812) 235-5914.

MATCHING GIFTS

Did you know that a matching gift could double or triple your donation? Many corporations will match employee or retiree gifts. Obtain a Matching Gift Form from your human resources office and include it with your donation. Be sure to fill out and sign the donor section before sending in the form. Some companies have an on-line matching gift procedure.

CELEBRATION GIFTS

As you plan gifts for family and friends this year, consider a gift that keeps on giving long after the wedding, anniversary, birthday, graduation, holiday or other special event or memorial. Upon receipt of your contribution, we will send an acknowledgment card indicating that you have made a gift to Wabash Valley Habitat for Humanity in honor of, or in memory of, the person you are celebrating. Be sure to include the name and address of the person who will receive the card.

PLANNED GIVING

You can help address housing needs in Vigo County now and in the future by remembering us in your will or making another type of planned gift. For more information on your estate planning, please contact us at (812) 235-5914.